

to assure Applicants of a full measure of protection of the scope to which they deem themselves entitled.

Claims 5, 15, 21, 23, 28 and 32 are independent.

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,855,006 (Huemoeller et al.).

First, cancellation of Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-14, 16, 18 and 20 renders the rejections of those claims moot.

Independent Claim 5 is directed to an information processing apparatus that comprises a detector, that detects that a user is about to leave his seat, and a notifier, that notifies a user of a pending undertaking when it is detected that the user is about to leave his seat.

Independent Claims 15 and 21 are corresponding method and memory-medium claims, respectively.

Thus, one important feature of the aspects of the invention to which Claims 5, 15 and 21 are directed, is that, when it is detected that the user is about to leave his seat, the user is notified of a pending undertaking.

*Huemoeller* relates to an apparatus for personal scheduling, which provides airline flight schedule information and hotel database information in response to a user designating a date for travel (col. 2, lines 37-45). The apparatus can also provide information indicating events

that tool place on the same date in prior years (col. 2, lines 64-66, and provide availability of coupons for redemption by printing them out (col. 3, lines 2-7). Nothing has been found or pointed out in *Huemoeller*, however, that is seen to teach or suggest detecting when a user is about to leave his seat, or any means by which that function could be performed, as recited in Claims 5, 15 and 21. Still less would anything in that patent teach or suggest providing a notification to a user in response to such a detection. For these reasons, Claims 5, 15 and 21 are deemed to be clearly allowable over *Huemoeller*.

Independent Claim 23 is directed to an information processing apparatus that has a schedule storage, for storing a plurality of pending undertakings, an entry adder, that adds a new undertaking to the schedule storage, and a search unit to search the storage for a pending undertaking relevant to the new undertaking. The apparatus also has a notifier to notify the user of the pending undertaking relevant to the new undertaking.

Independent Claims 28 and 32 are corresponding method and memory-medium claims, respectively.

Even if *Huemoeller* is deemed to show a system in which various historic (or other) events that occurred on the same date in prior years as an entered scheduled event,

nothing found or pointed out in that patent is seen to teach or suggest searching a storage of scheduled pending undertakings to find any that are relevant to a newly-entered one, as recited in Claim 23. Still less does anything in that patent teach or suggest any means or method by which such searching function would be performed. For these reasons, Claims 23, 28 and 31 are deemed to be clearly allowable over *Huemoeller*.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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